

INVENTORY SHEET FOR GROUP NOMINATIONS: IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BOISE, IDAHO

NOMINATION: Historic Resources of Paris (Partial Inventory: Architecture)SITE NAME: Joseph Cook house SITE # 58LOCATION: 63 West ^{2nd} Second SouthOWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Kent P. Stucki, Paris, IdahoQUADRANGLE AND SCALE: Paris, 7.5 minute ACREAGE: less than oneVERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Nomination includes the former Cook house and the property on which it stands: T-2220, Fraction of lot 19, block 19, Paris Townsite.UTM(S): 12/4, 66, 795/46, 74, 325DATE OR PERIOD: 1906 EVALUATED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LocalAREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

DESCRIPTION: Excellent condition altered original site

The former Joseph Cook house is a one-and-a-half story buff brick structure with a square plan, steep hipped roof with short lateral ridge, and large gables emerging at right front and on both sides. The porch is inset at right, supported on doubled, squared, slender columns with Tuscan capitals. The transomed entrance on the left side of the porch is approximately centered on the facade. There is a small gabled dormer emerging from the roof at upper left; it is sided with square shingle, has fully returning eaves and contains two small casement windows with diamond-shaped lights. Similar lights appear in the upper section of the triple window in the large gable at right; the semicircular center of the wooden sunburst directly above the middle window creates a "Palladian" effect. This large gable is faced with narrow shiplap and framed with bed molding.

Decorative elements below eave line are a molded frieze board, concrete lintels and sills on the windows, clear lozenge-shaped lights in the upper section of single large window on the left front elevation, and the millwork of the porch: the doubled square columns already mentioned, the balustrade with its slender angular members, the row of spindles running under the frieze board. Except for the porch, which is supported on brick pillars, the house sits on a stone basement. The front entrance appears to have had a sidelight to the right which has been filled in, but otherwise the house appears virtually unaltered. It is in excellent repair.

An additional historic feature is an early iron fence separating the house from the street. The running sections are in a hoop-and-arrow pattern; the gateposts terminate in miniature groin vaults and finials. The legend of Stewart Iron Works, Cincinnati, Ohio, is cast into the metal.

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Joseph Cook house

SIGNIFICANCE:

The Cook house is architecturally significant as a very well preserved Paris example of a transitional style, one which illustrates the movement from the varied decoration and shapes of the Queen Anne to the more regular, classicizing tastes after the turn of the century. Built for a prospering rancher who wished to send his children to Paris' schools in 1906, this "nice modern cottage", along with the John Tueller, Sr. house (site #59), represents a small renaissance of residential building in brick in Paris. The Cook house maintains some nineteenth-century qualities in the contrast of the smooth body wrapped by a running frieze board with the deeply inset porch and full upper gables. But the elegant columns bound by the spindles and balusters and the inventive version of the Palladian window, seen in another guise on the Jaussi bungalow (site #85), create a stylish formality not unlike the effect offered by the much earlier William Rich house (site #20), which it faces. Joseph Wolcott Cook was born and raised in Salt Lake City, one of Paris' few urbanites.